Sharp incdease in the prices of essential Drugs

*405. DR. G. VIJAYA MOHAN REDDY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been sharp increase in the prices of some essential drugs and commonly used drugs in complete violation of the Drug Price Control Order;

(b) if so, what action Government propose to take against the companies for not seeking permission before increasing the prices; and

(c) what action Government propose to take for bringing down the prices of drugs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI CHINTA MOHAN): (a) to (c) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) and (b) No, Sir. However, some instances of overcharging have come to the notice of the Government and the same are under examination. On completion of the examination, action would be taken as per the provisions of DPCO, 1987 and the Essential Commodities Act, 1955.

(c) The prices of scheduled drugs are fixed revised from time to time in accordance with the procedures and norms laid down under the DPCO, 1987 on the basis of the cost-*com*-technical studies conducted by the BICP and detailed examination of these reports in this Ministry. However, in a situation of rising costs, some increase in prices of drugs too, is inevitable.

DR. G. VIJAYA MOHAN REDDY: Sir, my question was whether there has been a sharp increase in the prices of some essential drugs, and the hon. Minister says, no. Everybody knows that the prices of drugs are increasing. In his own reply also several times he has referred to some companies fraudulent practices. So it is natural that rising costs will be there. So all these things are there. I think the drug industry must be disciplined. That is my first question.

SHRI CHINTA MOHAN: The suggestion given by the hon. Member will be taken into consideration.

DR. G. VIJAYA MOHAN REDDY: Another thing is that because of this the National Health Programme will suffer. Will the Government take care of it and supply drugs so that the National Health Programme will not suffer?

SHRI CHINTA MOHAN: We are doing it. For the National Health Programme we are fully equipped to give drugs.

SHRI DINESHBHAI TRIVEDI: I am afraid, Mr. Chairman, Sir, the answer is misleading. There is not much of time. I have got a list of 37 life-saving drugs like saline water for which the price has gone up from Rs. 35 to Rs. 85. The prices of essential drugs for heart diseases have gone up by 50 to 100 per cent. I have got a further list of 14 items which are in short supply. I will provide that to the hon. Minister. Evidently, he has no idea as to what is happening in the market. My question is: Would the Minister kindly take a very serious look into it and consider having an overall review of the entire drug policy as such?

SHRI CHINTA MOHAN: Sir, we are reviewing this previous policy. As I have already stated, there are about 30,000 formulations. 10,000 formulations are under price control and 20,000 formulations are not under price control. As regards saline which he has said, it is not under price control. They can give any price. It is not under price control.

SHRI DINESHBHAI TRIVEDI: What about essential drugs?

SHRI CHINTA MOHAN: About essential drugs, we are watching the situation...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question Hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

मध्य प्रदेश में औद्योगिक विकास केन्द्र

*406. **श्री अजीत जोगी :**
श्री बी० के० हरिप्रसाद :

क्या **प्रधान** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) मध्य प्रदेश में अभी तक स्थापित किये गये औद्योगिक विकास केन्द्रों का ब्यौरा क्या है ;

(ख) क्या सरकार मध्य प्रदेश के पिछड़े आदिवासी क्षेत्रों में खंड स्तर पर औद्योगिक विकास केन्द्र स्थापित करने का विचार रखती है और यदि हां, तो उसका ब्यौरा क्या है ; और यह प्रस्ताव कब तक कार्यान्वित किये जाने की सम्भावना है ; और

(ग) देश में आदिवासी क्षेत्रों में और अन्य अल्प विकसित जिलों में, जहां कोई उद्योग नहीं है, स्थापित किये गये औद्योगिक विकास केन्द्रों की कुल संख्या कितनी है ?

उद्योग मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री पी० जे० कुरियन) : (क) और (ख) विकास केन्द्र योजना के अधीन मध्य प्रदेश को 6 विकास केंद्र आवंटित किए गए हैं, इन सभी केन्द्रों हेतु स्थान का चयन कर लिया गया है और उसकी घोषणा भी कर दी गई है । इनमें से भिंड, धार, दुर्ग, गुना, रायपुर और रायसेन जिलों में से प्रत्येक जिले में एक एक केन्द्र है । इन क्षेत्रों में धार, दुर्ग तथा रायपुर ऐसे क्षेत्र हैं जहां आदिवासियों का संकेन्द्रण है।

(ग) चुने गए तथा घोषित किए गये 63 विकास केन्द्रों में से 50 क्षेत्र केन्द्र सरकार द्वारा घोषित पिछड़े क्षेत्र हैं।

पंजाब में उद्योगों को आर्थिक राज सहायता

*407. **सरदार जगजीत सिंह अरोड़ा :**
श्री राम जेठमलानी :

क्या **प्रधान** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि पिछले कुछ वर्षों के दौरान पंजाब में उद्योगों को केन्द्र सरकार द्वारा कोई आर्थिक राज-सहायता नहीं दी गई है ; यदि हां तो उसके क्या कारण हैं ; और

(ख) उस राज्य के उद्योगों को अन्तिम बार राजसहायता किस वर्ष प्रदान की गई थी और उस राजसहायता की राशि कितनी थी ?

उद्योग मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री पी० जे० कुरियन) : (क) और (ख) केन्द्रीय निवेश राजसहायता योजना 30 सितम्बर, 1988 से बन्द कर दी गयी थी । यह योजना राज्य सरकारों के जरिए चलायी गयी थी और केन्द्र सरकार ने राज्यों को केवल राजसहायता की राशि की प्रतपूर्ति की थी । इस योजना के चालू रहने के दौरान पंजाब सरकार द्वारा वितरित की गई राजसहायता की राशि के लिए वर्ष 1988–89 से 1990–91 के दौरान राज्य सरकार को 2.9 करोड़ रु. की राशि की प्रतिपूर्ति की गई थी ।

Export of Coir products

*408. SHRI JOHN F. FERNANDES: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that MRP and floor price for the export of Coir products, hamper free trade as contemplated in the new industrial policy; and